

**ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION**

5

A rendering application on a computing device requests a digital rights management (DRM) system on the computing device to authorize digital content rendering based on a corresponding digital license. If unavailable, the DRM system attempts to silently acquire the license from a license server without the intervention of a user. In the course thereof, the rendering application receives status information from the DRM system relating to the attempted license acquisition thereby and displays the received status information in a rendering application status display portion. If silent acquisition fails, the rendering application hosts a browser, causes the browser to navigate to a license server, allows a user to communicate with the license server by way of the hosted browser to acquire the license, and shuts down the hosted browser upon reception of the license from the license server.

20

M:\MSFT\APPS\Msft0309\Msft-0309 Application.doc